

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 06314 041849Z

46

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 OIC-02 AGR-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05

L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNCTAD, ETRD, EMIN

SUBJECT: UNCTAD - SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS ON COMMODITIES - COPPER

REF: (A) STATE 191746, (B) GENEVA 6113, (C) WILLIAMSON-WENDT
TELECON

SUMMARY: UNCTAD WILL NOTIFY ALL MEMBERS OF PREPARTATORY MEETING ON COPPER BUT EXPECTS ONLY INTERESTED COUNTRIES TO ATTEND. SECRETARIAT DOES NOT FEEL IT PRACTICAL TO LIMIT INVITATIONS. TEXT OF NOTIFICATION OF COPPER MEETING AND PROVISIONAL AGENDA ALSO BEING TRANSMITTED THIS MESSAGE. END SUMMARY.

1. PER REF A, MISSION RAISED WITH UNCTAD SECRETARIAT (RIDLER) QUESTION OF INVITATIONS TO FORTHCOMING PREPARATORY COMMODITY MEETINGS AND CONCEPT OF "PLENARY" MEETING ON COPPER. RIDLER NOTED SECRETARIAT HAS NEVER REFERRED TO THE PREPARATORY COMMODITY MEETINGS AS PLENARY MEETINGS. HE SAID THESE MEETINGS WILL BE OPEN TO
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PAGE 02 GENEVA 06314 041849Z

ALL MEMBERS OF UNCTAD WHO CONSIDER THAT THEY HAVE AN INTEREST IN

THE COMMODITY (I.E. NOTIFICATIONS WILL BE SENT TO ALL AHFBH MEMBERS, AND THOSE WHO CONSIDER THAT THEY HAVE AN INTEREST CAN ATTEND). COPPER MEETING NOTIFICATIONS TO BE RELEASED TOMORROW AUGUST 5.

2. IN RESPONSE TO OUR REPRESENTATION THAT IT NOT APPROPRIATE TO HAVE OPEN MEETINGS AND THAT MEETINGS SHOULD BE LIMITED TO COUNTRIES HAVING A DIRECT INTEREST IN THE COMMODITY CONCERNED, RIDLER SAID THAT SECRETARIAT DID NOT CONSIDER IT PRACTICAL TO LIMIT THE INVITATIONS TO THE FIRST PREPARATORY MEETING. RIDLER NOTED THAT IT WAS IMPLICIT IN THE NAIROBI RESOLUTION THAT COUNTRIES WITH AN INTEREST COULD ATTEND THE PREPARATORY COMMODITY MEETINGS AND ADDED THAT IT WAS VERY DIFFICULT TO DETERMINE WHICH COUNTRIES HAVE A DIRECT INTEREST IN A COMMODITY AND, HENCE, SHOULD OR SHOULD NOT BE INVITED. RIDLER EXPLAINED THAT UNCTAD WAS ABLE TO INVITE A LIMITED NUMBER OF MAJOR COUNTRIES TO THE MARCH COPPER CONSULTATION BECAUSE ITS PURPOSE WAS TO ADVISE THE SECRETARY GENERAL IF THERE WAS INTEREST IN AN AGREEMENT ON COPPER. ALSO, IN THE CASE OF THE MARCH MEETING, IF AN UNVITED COUNTRY REQUESTED TO ATTEND, IT WAS ALLOWED TO DO SO. WHEN SETTING UP SPECIALIZED BODIES SUCH AS ENVISAGED IN THE NAIROBI RESOLUTION, HE NOTED THAT SECRETARIAT HAD FOUND FROM EXPERIENCE THAT A WIDER REPRESENTATION WAS ADVISABLE. RIDLER INDICATED THAT SECRETARIAT ONLY WISHES TO SEE INTERESTED GOVERNMENTS AT THE MEETINGS BUT DOES NOT WANT TO OFFEND ANY GOVERNMENTS BY EXCLUDING THEM AND PREFERS TO LEAVE INITIATIVE TO THEM.

3. RIDLER ADDED THAT AT THE PREPARATORY MEETINGS GOVERNMENTS COULD, IF THEY WISHED, ESTABLISH WORKING GROUPS CONSISTING ONLY OF COUNTRIES HAVING A DIRECT INTEREST IN THE PRODUCT. HE CITED AS EXAMPLES THE WORKING GROUP SET UP TO PREPARE THE TIN AGREEMENT, THE PRICES COMMITTEE UNDER THE WHEAT AGREEMENT AND THE WORKING GROUPS ESTABLISHED UNDER SOME FAO BODIES.

4. WE UNDERSTAND THAT WORDING OF THE NOTIFICATION OF THE COPPER MEETING WILL BE AS FOLLOWS: "A PREPARATORY MEETING ON COPPER, PURSUANT TO CONFERENCE RESOLUTION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 GENEVA 06314 041849Z

93(IV) AND TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE AGREED CONCLUSIONS OF THE MARCH CONSULTATION ON COPPER, WILL BE HELD.... THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA IS AS FOLLOWS:

(1) ELECTION OF OFFICERS

(2) ADOPTION OF AGENDA

(3) CONSIDERATION OF POSSIBLE INTERNATIONAL ACTION

ON COPPER

CONFERENCE RESOLUTION 93(IV) ON AN INTE-

GRATED PROGRAM FOR COMMODITIES

CONCLUSIONS OF THE CONSULTATIONS ON COP-

PER HELD IN MARCH 1976

(4) CONSIDERATION OF FOLLOW-UP ACTION TO BE
RECOMMENDED

(5) OTHER BUSINESS.

GOVERNMENTS WHO WISH TO PARTICIPATE ARE REQUESTED TO ADVISE
THE UNCTAD SECRETARIAT BY" (LATTER LANGUAGE IS
STANDARD LANGUAGE IN UNCTAD NOTIFICATION OF MEETINGS.)

5. FOR WASHINGTON'S INFORMATION, WHEN UNCTAD HAS CON-
VENED A COMMODITY NEGOTIATING CONFERENCE SUCH AS THE
COCOA AND TIN CONFERENCES, THE LANGUAGE OF THE INVITA-
TION WAS AS FOLLOWS: "ON BEHALF OF THE SECRETARY-
GENERAL OF THE UN, THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF UNCTAD HAS
THE HONOR TO REQUEST HIS EXCELLENCY'S GOVERNMENT, IF
IT CONSIDERS ITSELF TO BE SUBSTANTIALLY INTERESTED IN
THE PRODUCTION OR CONSUMPTION OF, OR TRADE IN, TIN
(COCOA), TO BE REPRESENTED AT THE CONFERENCE."
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